

DIGBY WELLS

ENVIRONMENTAL

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

APPLICATION FOR AN INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT LICENCE FOR LANDAU COLLIERY

October 2013

Project Number:
ANG1733

Prepared for:
Anglo American Thermal Coal (AATC)

For any project related information please contact:

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1 PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

Anglo American Thermal Coal (AATC), a division of Anglo Operations (Pty) Ltd (AOPL), is applying for an Integrated Waste Management Licence for the expansion of lawfully existing, as well as proposed new waste management activities at its Landau Colliery (Landau). This Background Information Document (BID) has been developed in order to:

- Share information about the proposed project;
- Present the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment process to be undertaken according to South African legislation;
- Provide more detail about the Public Participation process which will be followed; and
- Provide information about the various specialist studies that will be carried out.

1.1 Appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioners

It is important to investigate potential impacts the proposed project will have on the environment and people. AATC has appointed Digby Wells Environmental (Digby Wells), as independent Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAP), to complete the required components of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), as required in terms of the National Environmental Management Waste Act, Act 59 of 2008 (NEM:WA) for activities as listed in GN R 718 of 3 July 2009.

2 BACKGROUND

AATC's Landau Colliery consists of two sections, namely the Kromdraai Section and the Navigation Section. The waste activities listed in the Integrated Waste Licence applied for comprises of a treatment of sewage, management of waste water and hazardous waste, as well the storage of tyres as part of the expansion of Landau.

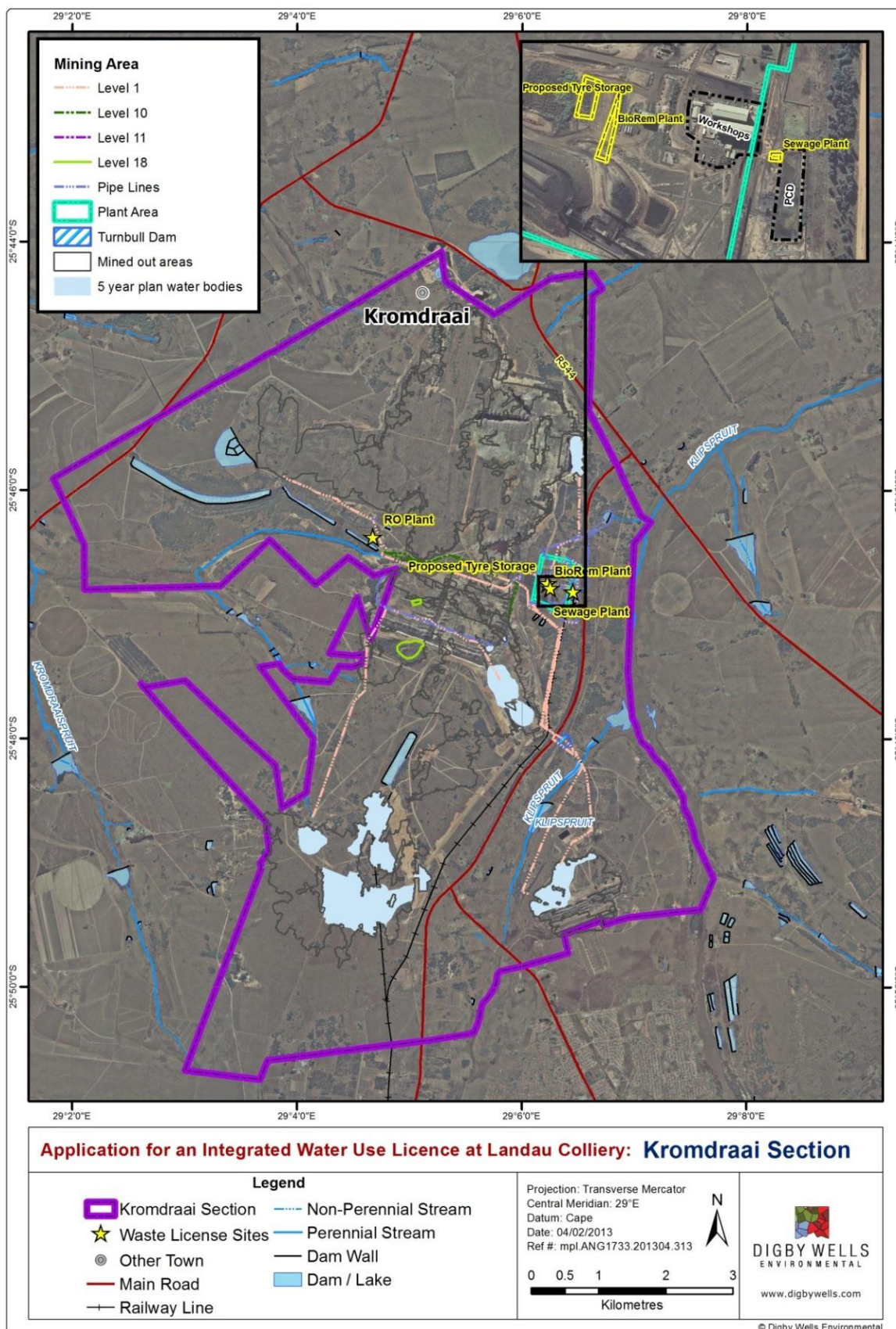
2.1 Landau Colliery locality setting

The Kromdraai Section is situated approximately 15 km north-west and the Navigation Section 6 km south-west of eMalahleni, within the Mpumalanga Province. Coal is currently mined at Landau from the No. 1, 2 and 4 seams of the Witbank Coal Field by implementing strip opencast mining methods. (Plan 1 on page 2 and Plan 2 on page 3 provides a local setting).

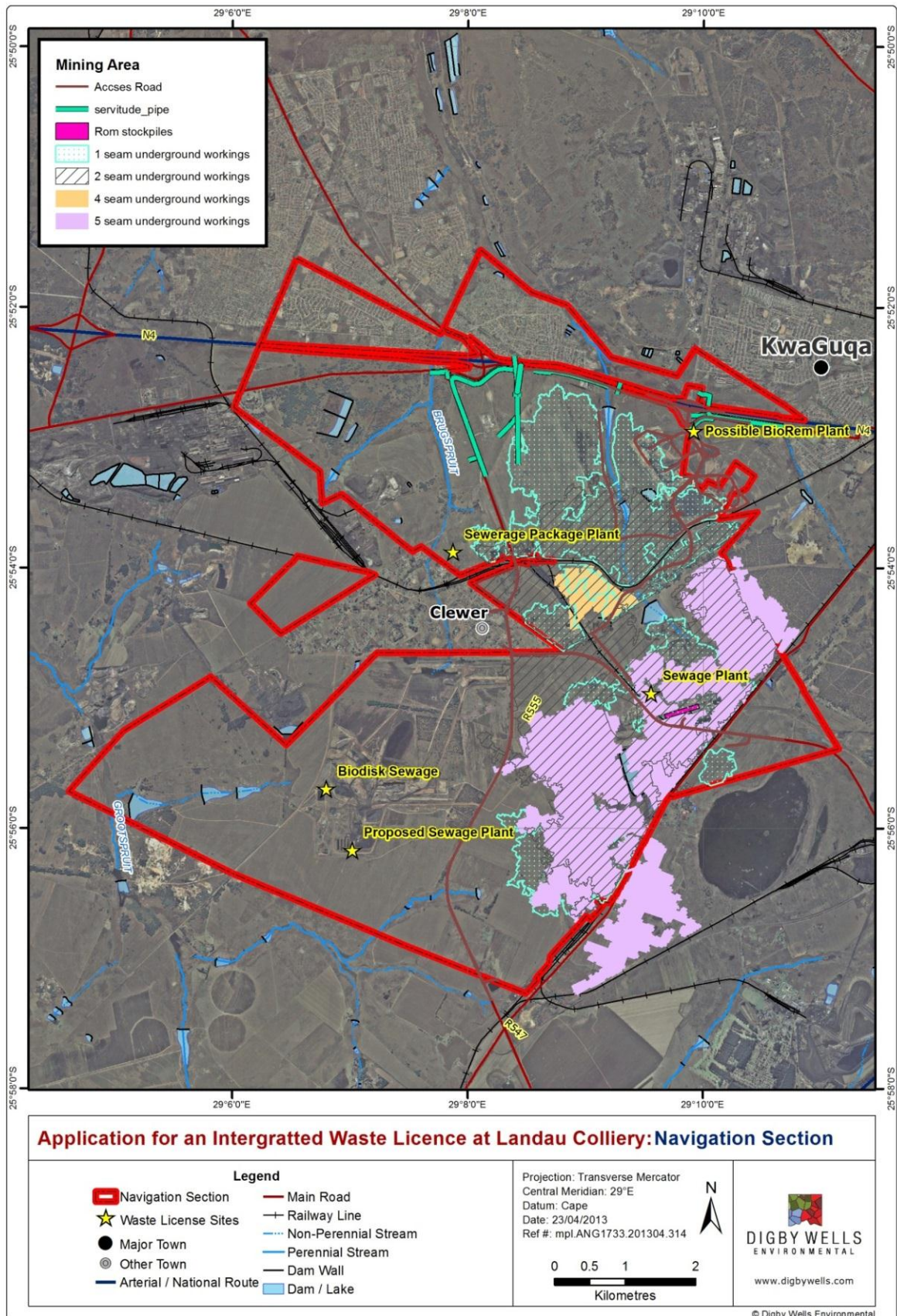
3 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

AATC plans to extend the life of mine (LoM) and to expand their existing opencast operations in the Navigation Section to include Schoongezicht West Block and the Navigation East Blocks. The expansion of these mining blocks forms part of the Landau Colliery Expansion Project. AATC is in the process of obtaining the necessary Environmental Authorisations associated with the expansion. Currently, a total of 3.1 million tonnes of coal is produced annually for the export market and is conveyed to the company's Rapid Loading Terminal for transportation to the Richards Bay Coal Terminal. A further 900 000 tonnes is provided for the domestic market, with 210 000 tonnes of coal currently supplied to Eskom for electrical power generation. The infrastructure provided in the table below forms part of the Integrated Waste Management Licence application and is proposed for construction should authorisation be granted.

Kromdraai Section	Navigation Section
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), Category A Activity 3(11); ■ Bioremediation Plant, Category B Activity 4(5) ; ■ Reverse Osmosis Plant, Category B Activity 4(7); and ■ Tyre Storage Yard, Category A Activity 3(4). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), Category B Activity 4(5) and 4(7)); ■ Navigation West (Umlalazi) Bio-Disk STP, Category A Activity 3(11) and 3(19) ■ Navigation West (Umlalazi) STP, Category A Activity 3(11) and 3(18); ■ Bioremediation Plant, Category B Activity 4(5); and ■ Landau Life Extension Project STP; Category B Activity 4(5) and 4(7).



Plan 1: Kromdraai Section Local Setting



Plan 2: Navigation Section Local Setting

4 EIA PROCES AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

4.1 Legislation

Proposed construction of the infrastructure listed in Section 3 above requires the necessary environmental authorisations and licenses as set out below:

- A Waste Management Licence as per the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (NEM:WA) for identified waste activities identified in terms of the GN No. 718 of 2009 are separated into two categories, namely Category A and Category B:
 - Category A describe waste management activities requiring a Basic Assessment process to be carried out in accordance with the EIA regulations supporting an application for a waste management licence; and
 - Category B describes waste management activities requiring an Environmental Impact Assessment process to be conducted in accordance with the EIA regulations supporting a waste management licence application.

The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) is the decision-making authority for the EIA.

4.2 Specialist Studies

Specialist studies will be conducted for the proposed project to determine potential impacts on the environment and people. Results of these studies will be considered by the project team for development of mitigation measures and enhanced project benefits. The various specialist studies that will be conducted include the following:

- Geohydrological
- Surface Water

There are comprehensive existing studies for the area and any potential impacts may be on the water resources, thus groundwater and surface water assessments are the only studies required at this stage.

4.3 Public Participation

Stakeholder affected by or are interested in the proposed project are invited to register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) in order to become involved in the EIA and Public Participation (PP) processes. The following anticipated dates are important to note for the PP process going forward:

- Availability of Draft Reports for public comment: *November 2013 – January 2014*
- Stakeholder meetings to be held during the public comment period: *November / December 2013*
- Availability of Final Reports for public comment: *January 2014*

Registered I&APs will be informed about availability of reports and scheduled stakeholder meetings by preferred means of communication (email, post or fax). Contributions from stakeholders will assist in informed decision-making for authorities and provides information to be considered by the project team and specialists conducting studies. All comments can be submitted using the contact details which appear on the cover page or as part of the Comment and Registration Sheet.